

DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JESSIE L. MEDLIN, PRESIDENT, PRESIDING

August 4, 1999

A. CALL TO ORDER

The August 4, 1999, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Jessie L. Medlin of DeSoto County.

Sheriff James Albert Riley the DeSoto County Sheriff was present and did open the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors meeting in a regular session to hear any and all business to come before the Board. The following were present:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----District 1
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----District 2
Supervisor Jimmy James-----District 3
Supervisor John Caldwell-----District 4
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----District 5
W. E. "Sluggo" Davis-----Chancery Clerk
David Armstrong-----County Administrator
James Albert Riley-----Sheriff of DeSoto County
William Austin-----Board Attorney

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was presented by County Administrator David Armstrong.

C. JUDGE GEORGE READY - PERSONNEL

Judge George Ready presented a request to hire additional personnel as a Court Reporter. Judge Ready said with the increased case load, an additional court reporter is needed. Judge Ready said the total cost to hire an additional court reporter would be \$ 47,452.80 annually, however, 17th Circuit District would share in the cost of additional personnel for DeSoto County. Judge Ready said the cost for DeSoto County would be \$ 14,235.84 annually.

Judge Ready said 95% to 97% of his court is criminal, and with 80% of cases being appealed. This has resulted in making special appointments of court reporters just to keep up with the case load. Judge Ready said it would be advantageous for DeSoto County to hire an additional court reporter rather than making special appointments.

At the recommendation of Judge Ready, Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion, and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion authorizing the hiring of additional personnel as a Court Reporter in Circuit Court with the shared cost of \$ 47,452.80 annually, effective October 1st, 1999. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

D. PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission brought several items before the Board of Supervisors as evidenced by the portion of the minutes submitted by the Planning Commission.
****See Exhibit D.****

ITEM E, CONTINUED,

E. TRUANCY PROGRAM - SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROGRAM - ANNIE JAMISON

Annie Jamison, DeSoto County Truancy Officer presented an update to the Board of Supervisors on the Truancy Program in connection with the School Attendance Program. Ms. Jamison said this department is under the direction of Supervisor Peggy Peterson and K. D. Harris with the State Department of Education.

Ms. Jamison said this program is working very hard to ensure children between the ages of 6 to 17 years are receiving some type of education program. Ms. Jamison said present statistics show approximately 2,500 children are enrolled in private schools with approximately 500 children being home schooled. Ms. Jamison said the drop out rate is less than 1%.

Ms. Jamison said the program is working, as DeSoto County has jailed one (1) parent this year in connection with the truancy program. Ms. Jamison said if a parent is circumventing the school attendance law, a child will be tested and enrolled back into the school system.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked Ms. Jamison if the Board of Education provides testing for children being home schooled. Ms. Jamison said there is no law stating curriculum which has to be taught. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if the truancy program can deal with absenteeism. Ms. Jamison said the truancy program can only deal with unexcused absentees.

Ms. Jamison said this meeting is not to ask for funding, but is letting the Board of Supervisors know that a new program of the DeSoto County Truant Council is being established to provide additional avenues to handle the truant problem in DeSoto County. Supervisor Jessie Medlin recommended Ms. Jamison meet with the County Administrator, David Armstrong to discuss funding for the truancy program. The Board of Supervisor thanked Ms. Jamison for the update in connection with the Truancy Program.

F. HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUNDING

Diane Hargrove and Dr. Lovetta Brown appeared before the Board of Supervisors to request additional budget funding. The County Administrator, David Armstrong reminded the Board of Supervisors that he had been asked to come up with some budget numbers for the Health Department. Mr. Armstrong said that he found that the State has not cut funding, but has increased funding for the Health Department. What has gone down is Medicare earnings. In addition, funding from DeSoto County has increased as well. DeSoto County's current appropriation is \$254,000.00. Mr. Armstrong said that this year the Health Department asked for \$273,000.00 and he is prepared to recommend a budget of \$258,000.00 which is a 2% increase for this year.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked why Medicare earnings are down. Diane Hargrove said that patients are now assigned private providers in many cases.

Supervisor Eugene Thach suggested consolidating services within the County. Ms. Hargrove and Dr. Brown said that to do so would require a building large enough to accommodate the case load.

County Administrator David Armstrong said that the Health Department did not really want the Walls facility and it is not heavily utilized, yet they must staff it.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin reminded the Health Department that the Board has given additional money to them twice this year. The County Administrator asked what the State appropriation this year was. Diane Hargrove said that those numbers are not yet available.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if other counties have more than one facility. Diane Hargrove answered that some do and some don't.

ITEM F, CONTINUED,

Supervisor John Caldwell asked about the number of people served. Diane Hargrove answered that the case load is going up. County Administrator David Armstrong asked why local earnings are down. Diane Hargrove responded that the Health Department provides different services and when clients say they do not have money to pay for their services, the Health Department cannot deny them attention. Diane Hargrove said the Health Department will not be able to hire additional staff to serve the citizens in DeSoto County without additional money. Davis Armstrong asked what \$273,000.00 would fund. Diane Hargrove answered that that would provide for current staff only. Supervisor John Caldwell asked how to get the burden back to the State.

No motions were made or votes taken regarding this item of business.

G. NESBIT DRIVERS LICENSE BUILDING-HIGHWAY PATROL

John Cosby of the Mississippi Highway Patrol appeared before the Board of Supervisors about the land at the Driver's License Bureau. Mr. Cosby explained to the Board that lightning strikes and power problems have arisen because of the current alignment of the existing building with the Doppler weather tower located near the property. Consequently, it will be necessary to relocate the position of the permanent Drivers License Bureau building and to do so will require one additional acre of land. Mr. Cosby presented plans of the building to the Board for their review.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin clarified that this request is for one additional acre of land to go with the previously donated land. Mr. Cosby said that is correct.

Supervisor Eugene Thach asked if the land around the current Drivers License building was sold. Board Attorney, Bill Austin said the surrounding land was sold, but the County still has possession of the acre of land being requested by the Highway Department.

Supervisor John Caldwell asked if brick would only be placed on the front of the building and metal on the sides and back. Mr. Cosby said that is correct and explained to the Board of Supervisors that he held out for a 3,000 square foot building and the final plans call for 3,390 square feet to be built. However, in doing so, the architect, Johnson, Bailey, Henderson, & McNeil, do not think that there will be money for brick on more than the front of the building. Mr. Cosby discussed the plans of the building with the Board and reported the estimated cost to build the facility is \$253,560.00. Mr. Cosby said the front of the building will face north. The Board of Supervisors noted that this would mean that the metal sides of the building will be facing oncoming traffic from Interstate 55 and those coming into the property from Highway 51.

The Board of Supervisors encouraged the Highway Department to brick the entire building. Supervisor Eugene Thach said that most of the other buildings around the state are nice buildings. Mr. Cosby said that all CDL buildings are metal buildings and those were more recently built by the Highway Department.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said that the Board of Supervisors needs to tell the Highway Department that we were promised a nice building when the land was donated and now the County is stuck with a trailer that was confiscated in a drug bust. Supervisor Medlin said that we need to let the Highway Department know that we need and request the building that we were originally promised.

Board Attorney Bill Austin asked if there are any alternates in the bid. Mr. Cosby said that there is an alternate for the acousticals. The Board Attorney asked if an additional alternate could be added to find the cost of bricking the entire building.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin clarified that the request to get the building brick is based on the fact

ITEM G, CONTINUED,

that the metal is on the sides of the Interstate and facing the public on the road leading up to the building from Highway 51.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he feels a gable would look better on the front of the building. Mr. Cosby said that money was not in the project for the addition of a gable.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to give a deed for the extra acre to the Highway Patrol Unit with the understanding that they know that it is the Board’s desire to add an alternate to make the building all brick After discussion of the situation, Supervisor Thach withdrew his motion and Supervisor James withdrew his second.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the Highway Department will need the acre that the trailer is on after the new building is built. Mr. Cosby said that the Highway Patrol will use that acre for parking. Supervisor Medlin asked if the parking lot will be paved. Mr. Cosby said he is not aware of any plans to pave the parking lot at this time but gravel will likely be added to the lot.

Supervisor John Caldwell said that his concern was that this is a State project and if the County is going to end up with a metal building on a gravel parking lot then Supervisor Caldwell said he would just as soon leave it in the trailer. Supervisor Caldwell speculated that if the County gives the State the property they can do anything they want as far as the building. The Board agreed to meet with Jim Ingram to discuss the issue. Mr. Cosby left the meeting to telephone the Highway Patrol Division to see if it would be possible to add an alternate to include bricking the entire building. Later in the meeting, Officer Cosby returned and brought back a faxed copy of an alternate to add brick on the south and west sides of the building. Mr. Cosby said that this will go into the bid for the building. The Board asked David Armstrong to call the Highway Patrol to let them know the County’s interest in bricking the building.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to deed one acre of land adjacent to the current Highway Patrol Licensing Building to the Highway Patrol with a request that they add the alternate to the bid for the construction of the building that would allow for bricking the south and west sides of the building.

The **motion passed** by vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin	YES
Supervisor Eugene Thach	YES
Supervisor Jimmy James	YES
Supervisor John Caldwell	NO
Supervisor Tommy Lewis	YES

H. OLD BUSINESS

1. Request to Abandon Old Poplar Corner Road

This item was held over until the August 16th meeting.

2. Budget Amendment - Youth Services Furniture

Vanessa Lynchard notified the Board of Supervisors that the request for furniture in the DeSoto County Youth Services has been reviewed and it was determined by the Board of Supervisors at the July 19th meeting that it may not be in the best interest of the County to use the existing Board of Supervisors chairs in the Youth Services division. Vanessa said that the only alternative would be to use the three side chairs in the County Administrator’s office after the office moves to the new Administration Building. However, to order five additional chairs to match these chairs would cost a total of \$1,875.00. The amount requested by Youth Services

ITEM H.2, CONTINUED,

for eight chairs was \$772.00. In addition, there are no tables or file cabinets available to transfer to Youth Services. Therefore, the total budget amendment needed would be \$1,386.00. Vanessa said that because of the difference of the price to use the existing side chairs was greater, she would recommend honoring the request of Youth Services. In addition, Vanessa said that the money requested for the budget amendment is available in the Youth Services budget, if a budget amendment is transferred as requested by Youth Services.

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code, the Board of Supervisors did discuss an amendment to the budget for the Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1998 and ending September 30, 1999. At the recommendation of the Comptroller, Dale Thompson, Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the budget amendment for Youth Services as follows, and to authorize the purchase of eight side chairs at \$772.00, two tables at \$223.00 and one 4 drawer file cabinet at \$168.00: Lower

Lower	001-164-552	Medical Fees	\$303.00	Lower
	Increase	001-164-934	Furniture and Fixtures	
			\$1,386.00	

The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **See Exhibit H.2**

3. Appointment Horn Lake Library

This item was held over until the August 16th meeting.

4. Domestic Violence Project

County Administrator David Armstrong reminded the Board of Supervisors that they asked him to refigure the budget for the Domestic Violence Project. Mr. Armstrong said the shelter in Oxford served sixty-six people from DeSoto County in the Lafayette County facility last year. Mr. Armstrong said he recommends a budget of \$1300.00 based on usage of DeSoto County residents.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to allocate \$1300.00 in the FY2000 budget to the Domestic Violence Project in Lafayette County. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

5. Petition to Adopt Road - Julious

This item was held over until the August 16th meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

6. Garbage Collections

County Administrator David Armstrong said that the current garbage collection contract expires December 31, 1999. However, the date of the proposals for the collection and disposal contracts will have to be moved to Wednesday, September 15. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to put out bids for garbage collection and disposal and to change the date of the bid opening to September 15, 1999 and to schedule a pre bid conference for August 25, 1999. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

7. Personnel Manual/Employee Handbook

County Administrator David Armstrong reminded the Board that the Personnel Manual has been adopted. Mr. Armstrong said that the Board has asked why the handbook cannot be used for the employee manual. Mr. Armstrong said that according to Hunter Twiford, we have to

ITEM H.7, CONTINUED,

have the manual to be lawsuit proof. Supervisor Jimmy James asked if the change approved by the Board of Supervisors to allow borrowing sick leave is in the manual. David Armstrong said yes. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to adopt the employee handbook and grievance forms to go along with the personnel manual. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.**See Exhibit H.7**

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Amendment - DHS

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 19-11-11 of the Mississippi Code, the Board of Supervisors did discuss an amendment to the budget for the Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1998, and ending September 30, 1999. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the Budget Amendment for the Department of Human Services.

Decrease	001-450-543	Repair of Office Equip & Furn	\$	
		149.05		
Decrease	001-450-570	Insurance & Fidelity Bonds		\$ 200.00
Decrease	001-454-543	DHS Repair of Office Equip		\$ 300.00

Increase 001-450-933 Office Machines & Equipment \$ 649.05
The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.1****

2. Jail Inspection

In accordance with Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated of 1972, which states that a least annually, and as often as it may think proper, the Board of Supervisors, or a competent person authorized by the Board of Supervisors, shall examine into the state and condition of the jail, in regard to its safety, sufficiency and accommodation of the prisoners, and from time to time take such legal measures as may best tend to secure the prisoners against escape, sickness and infection, and have the jail cleansed.

Having completed such inspection, Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to acknowledge the inspection of the DeSoto County jail by the Board of Supervisors as outlined in Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

3. Acceptance of Renewal of Certificate of Liability Coverage

Vanessa Lynchard presented the Renewal of Certificate of Coverage for DeSoto County from the Mississippi Court Claims Board. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to accept the Certificate of Coverage into the minutes. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.3****

4. Road Report & Work Schedule

Kenny Gunn presented the Road Report and Work Schedule to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to accept the Road Report for July, 1999 and Work Schedule for August, 1999, pursuant to Section 65-17-7 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, annotated. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.4.****

ITEM I.5, CONTINUED,

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to recess until 1:45 p.m. on this date. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

5. Justice Court Report

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the Justice Court Report for the month of July, 1999. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.5****

6. Sheriff's Employee Report

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to accept the Sheriff's Department Employee Report for the month of July, 1999 into the minutes. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.6****

7. Advertise County Resources - Central Flame Baseball Association

Vanessa Lynchard presented a request from the Central Flame Baseball Association from which the Coach and over half the team are DeSoto County residents in request of funds for the twelve year old all star team to attend and participate in a ball tournament in Casper, Wyoming.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to approve, at the approval of the Board Attorney, William Austin and in accordance with Section 17-3-3, of the Mississippi Code of 1972, a donation of \$250.00 to the Central Flames Baseball Association who will be traveling to Casper, Wyoming to participate in a 12 year old ball tournament. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

	Supervisor Jessie
Medlin	YES
	Supervisor Eugene
Thach	YES
	Supervisor Jimmy
James	YES
	Supervisor John
Caldwell	NO
	Supervisor Tommy
Lewis	YES

Supervisor John Caldwell explained that his descending vote was cast due to the fact that the Central Church is not located in DeSoto County even though the participants are from DeSoto County. ****See Exhibit I.7****

8. Request for County Assistance - Meadowbrook Place

The Board of Supervisors held this item over at the request of Supervisor Eugene Thach.

9. Highway 301 Ball Park - Request for Batting Cage

Supervisor Jimmy James explained to the Board of Supervisors that Highway 301 is trying to update and improve their park and have requested batting cages for use in the park. The Board of Supervisors discussed the cost of the batting cages and possible options for providing the batting cages. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to take the request for batting cages at the Highway 301 ball park under advisement. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

10. Approval to Declare Surplus Equipment - Metro Narcotics

Vanessa presented a request from Gary Smith, Commander of Metro Narcotics, to declare certain equipment as surplus as noted on Exhibit I.10 so that the equipment can be included in a surplus sale for Metro Narcotics. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to approve the request to declare the equipment on Exhibit **ITEM I.10, CONTINUED,**

I.10 as surplus and to authorize Metro Narcotics to include the equipment in the upcoming surplus sale. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.10****

11. Couch’s Store - Work Performed - Marianne Gagne

This item was handled in Executive Session as it was determined this could be an item of potential litigation.

12. Accepting the State of Mississippi Approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Metro Narcotics

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the Attorney General’s approval of the interlocal agreement for Metro Narcotics for the 1999-2000 fiscal year into the minutes. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.12****

13. Approval of Contract with Alco Services - Administration Building

Vanessa Lynchard notified the Board of Supervisors that she has met with several telephone representatives in connection with the coming telephone needs in the Administration Building and Courthouse. Vanessa said that with each company she has received salesmanship rather than advice about the County’s needs. Having dealt with Harold Moore from Alco Services and having him recommended in connection with these telephone needs, Vanessa contacted and spoke to Mr. Moore, who graciously agreed to advise the County and recommend cost effective options for the upcoming telephone needs. Mr. Moore, however, said that his company would not bid on any necessary equipment as he questioned the integrity of advising the County and then bidding on the job. Vanessa explained to the Board of Supervisors that she has received estimates from \$25,000 to \$60,000 to update our telephone system in the new building. Mr. Moore has presented a possible option to carry the existing telephone systems over to the new building and addressing changing the system out in two years when the ESSEX contract expires as changing technology may provide competitive and/or cost effective options that are not available today. Harold Moore discussed the telephone project with the Supervisors and said certain questions would have to be addressed, including the data transfer between the buildings, whether or not the county wants to use the existing PBX or purchase a new PBX, the installation and need to move the existing system. Mr. Moore explained that his proposal will assist the County through the maintenance of the overall project cost, locating vendors who are qualified, generating any request grant information, generating the final request for proposal, a field review of the work done between the building, the transition of the telephone systems into the new building, which will include an installation plan and scheduling vendors, and support up to ninety days after the transition. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to approve a consulting contract with Harold Moore of Alco Services at \$40.00 per hour for the duration of the project, not to exceed \$3500.00. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.13****

14. Bids Under Advisement - Gasoline

Vanessa Lynchard presented the bids under advisement for Gasoline to the Board of Supervisors. Vanessa said that as requested, she has gotten a comparison between M.C. Herrington, Sayle Oil and Fuelman. Vanessa said that to the prices from M. C. Herrington and Sayle Oil it will be necessary to add \$.04 per gallon to fairly compare them to Fuelman for the annual maintenance cost to the card reader system at Central Maintenance. Vanessa said that in doing so, the average cost of the Fuelman is still the same or higher than staying with the current card readersystem and purchasing the gas through daily quotes from M.C. Herrington and Sayle Oil. In addition, Vanessa reminded the Board of Supervisors that the Sheriff’s Department does not recommend changing to the Fuelman system and the Sheriff’s Department will be most affected by the change to Fuelman. Vanessa said that because of a lack of Fuelman

ITEM I.14, CONTINUED,

stations on the east and west sides of the County, the time savings for the Sheriff’s Department to refuel at Fuelman locations would not be substantial, however, Vanessa reminded the Board that the current card reader system may have to be updated to make it Y2K compatible according to the Road Manager, and the Road Manager highly recommends the Fuelman system. The Board of Supervisors discussed the issue. Supervisor Eugene Thach reminded the Board of the success the State and Board of Education have had with the Fuelman system.

Supervisor Jimmy James made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to accept the bids to obtain daily quotes from M.C. Herrington and Sayle Oil in connection with the gasoline bids for County offices and to instruct the Road Manager to get a non-highway diesel tank for use in Central Maintenance. The **motion passed** by a vote as follows:

	Supervisor Jessie
Medlin	YES
	Supervisor Eugene
Thach	NO
	Supervisor Jimmy
James	YES

	Supervisor John
Caldwell	YES
	Supervisor Tommy
Lewis	YES

****See Exhibit I.14****

15. Accepting FY00 - Budget of the Board of Education into the minutes

In accordance with Section 19-11-11, and Section 37-57-105 of the Mississippi Code, Vanessa Lynchard presented the approved budget for the Board of Education to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance into the Board minutes. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to accept the budget for the Board of Education into the minutes of the Board of Supervisors. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.15****

16. Approval of Financing - Two (2) Heavy Duty Dump Trucks

Vanessa Lynchard presented a tabulation of quotes for financing of two (2) heavy duty dump trucks in connection with Bid File #99-156-011 which opened on March 30, 1999. The total amount financed is \$135, 924.00. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to accept the low bid from Great Southern Leasing for the financing of the two (2) Volvo WG64 heavy duty dump trucks in connection with Bid File 99-156-011 at 4.70% and authorized the Board President to sign the papers upon approval of the Board Attorney. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit I.16****

17. Budget FY00

County Administrator, David Armstrong presented the FY2000 Budget to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Armstrong said that page 3 of the budget indicates the projected revenue at \$23,726,605.00 which is up 15% from last year, however, page 42 of the budget indicates projected expenses at \$27, 507,458.00, which leaves a difference of \$3,780,853.00. Mr. Armstrong said that the major reasons for the excess expenses stem from \$260,000.00 budgeted for the state mandated reappraisals in the Tax Assessor's office; \$370,000.00 for digital mapping in the Tax Assessor's office; \$175,000.00 for the a GIS department; and \$3,000,000.00 for a park, which totals \$3,810,000.00. The Board of Supervisors discussed the budget with the County Administrator. The Board all agreed that they have no plans to increase taxes during this budget year. The County Administrator notified the Board that the following items have been omitted from the FY2000 budget that had been presented to the Supervisors:

- 1) \$2,500,000.00 for the addition to the DeSoto County Jail. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if architect and engineering fees are included in the budget. David Armstrong said yes.
- 2) \$1,200,000.00 in matching funds for the waste water EPA grant.
- 3) \$107,000 for a civil defense shelter.

ITEM I.17, CONTINUED,

- 4) The Civic Center requested an increased budget for start up expenses in the Civic Center and the budget is being presented without the start up funds.

David Armstrong said he has talked to Demery Grubbs about going to the State Development Bank where we have an approved line of credit to handle some of these expenditures. Mr. Armstrong told the Board of Supervisors that Item 520-770 has combined the district park budgets into one line item. Supervisor Eugene Thach said that he is not for a tax increase or for deleting contingency funds.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The "Executive Session" portion of this meeting is presented under the portion of minutes called "Executive Session."

J. OTHER ISSUES

1. Central Maintenance - Equipment

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn notified the Board of Supervisors that he would like to purchase an air operated post driver. The Road Manager said the County has a retaining wall to build at Grays Creek Cemetery as the bank is washing into the roadway and the post driver is needed for the construction of that wall as well as for other projects in the County. Mr. Gunn said that the estimated cost of the post driver is \$2,030.00. Mr. Gunn said he is bringing this request to the Board of Supervisors as he is prevented from purchasing equipment during the Board’s last six months in office without Board approval.

Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the purchase of the post driver in Central Maintenance. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

2. Delta View Road

Supervisor Jimmy James asked if Delta View Road has been changed to Baldwin Road. The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn said the name should be changed but it has not been done. Mr. Gunn said that he just added a sign on a portion of the road indicating where Baldwin Road runs. The Board Attorney, Bill Austin, said the intersection of Church Road and Delta View Road has a sign naming the road Baldwin Road. The Road Manager said he would look into the road sign.

3. Central Maintenance - Equipment

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, notified the Board of Supervisors that their department has never replaced the ice machine from the burned satellite building in Walls and he has received a quote of \$1,284.00 to do so. Mr. Gunn reminded the Board of Supervisors that insurance reimbursed this amount to the County.

Supervisor Jimmy James made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to authorize the purchase of an ice machine at the Walls satellite barn and to pay for the same with the insurance proceeds. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

4. Sandidge Road

Supervisor Eugene Thach brought up the problem of dumping on the end of Sandidge Road. Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, said the best solution would be to close that portion of road but there is a corn field on that section of road. The Board of Supervisors suggested putting a gate up and giving the owner of the corn field a key to the gate.

ITEM K.5, CONTINUED,

5. Travel - Central Maintenance

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, requested approval to attend a one day seminar in Jackson, Mississippi on September 21, 1999. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor Jimmy James seconded the motion to approve the Road Manager to attend the Construction Contracting for Public Entities in Mississippi seminar in Jackson, Mississippi on September 21, 1999. The **motion passed** by vote as follows:

	Supervisor Jessie
Medlin	YES
	Supervisor Eugene
Thach	YES
	Supervisor Jimmy

James YES
Supervisor John
Caldwell ABSENT
Supervisor Tommy
Lewis YES

****See Exhibit K.5****

6. Central Maintenance - Equipment - Water Tank

Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, notified the Board of Supervisors that the Road Department is adding DBST to the east of the bluff and he would like to have a 4,000 gallon water tank to use on this project and other projects such as this throughout the County. The Road Manager explained that the small tank is not enough to get the road wet and the estimated cost of the 4,000 gallon tank is between \$6,800.00 and \$7,920.00. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if he could contract wetting this road out. The Road Manager said he was not aware of any company that did that contracting. Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion to take the request for the 4,000 gallon water tank purchase under advisement. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

7. Personnel - Central Maintenance

The Road Manager, Kenny Gunn, presented a list of proposed raises for Central Maintenance for September 1999 and a request to hire a full time employee. At the request of the Road Manager, Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the raises in Central Maintenance effective August 26, 1999, as follows:

NAME	CLASSIFICATION	PRESENT SALARY	NEW SALARY
John Caffey	Crew Leader	12.08	12.68
Thomas Gross	Operator	12.08	12.68
Frankie Merriweather	Skilled Labor	8.98	9.43
Norman Tuggle	Laborer	7.35	7.57

In addition, the motion included hiring Chester Smith as a full time employee effective August 4, 1999, at a salary of \$9.00 per hour. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote. ****See Exhibit K.7****

8. Road Signs

The Road Manager Kenny Gunn asked for clarification of the recent board order concerning road signs. The Road Manager said it was his understanding that road signs should be in place before building permits are issued. Mr. Gunn said that the subdivision inspector, Jim Ivy, will send Merritt Powell, Director of Planning, a note that signs are in place, but asked how the County should proceed if something happened to the signs once they are in place. The Board

ITEM K.8., CONTINUED,

agreed that once Jim Ivy certifies that the signs are up, it will be the County's responsibility to replace them.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to recess until Monday, August 16, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. The **motion passed** by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 4th day of August, 1999, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

Jessie L. Medlin, President
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors